Overview: Comparison of Part C and Part B

	Part C	**Part B**
Lead Agency	Arizona Department of Economic Security, Arizona Early Intervention Program	Arizona Department of Education
Goals	The focus is on supporting the family and other caregivers to enhance the child's participation in family and community life, social relationships, and promote their child's growth and development.	The focus is on the child and his/her educational needs.
Age	Covers children birth through age 2; eligibility determined by established condition or 50% developmental delay in a developmental domain.	Covers children age 3-21; eligibility determined by specific categories of disability or, for 3 & 4 year-olds, but significant developmental delays.
Service Coordination	Each eligible child and their family have a single, designated service coordinator.	Under special education law, there is no requirement that a service coordinator be designated for a child and their family.
Services	Supports and services are documented in an IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan); services are the responsibility of the service providing agency and are coordinated by the service coordinator.	Special education and related services are documented in an IEP (Individual Education plan); all services are the responsibility of the local school district.
Delivery of services	Requires supports and services to be provided in "natural environments" which are those settings that are natural or normal for the child's age peers who have no disabilities.	Requires special education and related services to be provided in the "least restrictive environment"
Cost	AzEIP is the payor of last resort and other Federal, State, local or private sources must be exhausted before using Part C funds.	Special education and related services are provided at no cost to the child, i.e., "Free Appropriate Public Education."
Recipient(s) of Services	Recipients of supports and services include the child and his/her family and other caregivers.	Recipient of special education and related services if the child only.
Evaluation	A family may obtain a second opinion on an evaluation or assessment. AzEIP is not responsible for the costs the family incurs obtaining the second opinion.	Parents may obtain an independent educational evaluation (IEE) at schools district expense if they disagree with the accuracy or appropriateness of the school district's assessment unless the district requests a due process hearing to prove the accuracy or the appropriateness of its assessment.
Dispute Resolution	Dispute resolution within early intervention is available through the system complaint process, mediation and/or due process hearing.	Dispute resolution available through all of the same processes as Part C; attorneys' fees incurred for due process hearing or civil action may be awarded under certain circumstances.
Procedural Safeguards	Procedural safeguards include: written consent for initial evaluation and assessment, and initiation of services; opportunity to examine child records and receive copies at a reasonable cost; confidentiality of information; prior written notice giving parents reasonable time before the proposal or refusal to initiate or change the identification, evaluation or placement of the child, or the provision of early intervention services; right to accept or decline services on the IFSP without jeopardizing other services; and the dispute resolution procedures noted above.	Procedural safeguards are provided to family and information regarding confidentiality of information, right to examine school district records related to child and obtain copies at reasonable cost, written consent required before initial assessment and placement, extended school year services if child requires them, transitioning planning, right to decline a service on the IEP without jeopardizing other services, right to have outside evaluations obtained at parent expenses considered by IEP team and included in child's record. Prior Written Notice of changes to child's educational plan are provided at the end of meetings or before any changes are made.

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